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**STOCKTON MAN CONVICTED OF AGGRAVATED IDENTITY
THEFT, BANK FRAUD, AND OTHER FELONIES**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that DEREK ADAM NAASZ, 27, pled guilty to five felony identity theft crimes in federal district court before United States District Court Judge Garland E. Burrell.

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service, with the assistance of the Stockton Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting the case, NAASZ was convicted for his scheme to commit bank fraud with checks stolen from the U.S. Mail. NAASZ altered the stolen checks, then he forged and attempted to cash the checks to defraud banks and retailers in the Stockton area. NAASZ used the stolen identification of another person to cash the checks. For NAASZ' use of another's identification to commit bank fraud – the aggravated i.d. theft conviction – federal law provides a minimum mandatory two year sentence of imprisonment to run consecutively to whatever sentence is given for NAASZ' bank fraud scheme. NAASZ was additionally convicted of two counts of possession of stolen United States Mail, and one count of credit card fraud. NAASZ possessed over 15 stolen credit card account numbers for fraudulent use. NAASZ victimized over 50 individuals in committing his identification theft crimes.

NAASZ faces a maximum sentence of 55 years imprisonment, a five-year term of supervised release, restitution, and a fine of up to \$1,750,000.

NAASZ remains in custody for his federal criminal convictions, and is scheduled for sentencing on April 7, 2006 before Judge Burrell.

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